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FOURTH EDITION

A WORD OF WARNING.

THREE

OF THE

„BLASPHEMIES..

—OF—

MILLENNIAL DAWN.

*“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, **EVEN DENYING THE LORD** that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”—2 Peter 2:1.*

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ELLA, IOWA,

— U. S. A.

NOVEMBER 1905.

"Hold the fast which thou hast,
that thou mayest wear the crown." REV.
3:11.

"For there are certain men crept
in unto thee, who were before of old
blameless, to this perdition: un-
godly, denying the grace of God
into unbelief, and denying the
only Lord our Lord Jesus
Christ." 1.

Three of the Blasphemies of "Millennial Dawn."

A WORD OF WARNING.

The writer of the following pages does not undertake to point out the numerous errors in the teachings of "Millennial Dawn" by Mr. C. T. Russell, editor of "*Zions Watchtower*," and author of the book entitled "THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES." This, others have done, and we can thank God for the many faithful warnings that have been raised against these wicked teachings. We will merely seek to bring before the reader three points in their shocking and blasphemous teachings in the hope that it may be the means of preserving some from becoming entangled in the fatal snare, and preparing the Lord's dear people to withstand the evil, should they come in contact with it. Agents are going around the country selling their books, and you may have one at your door any day. I would beg of you my dear reader, to have nothing whatever to do with these evil teachings for they are ruinous to the soul, being a vile attack of Satan to rob us of the true Christ of God.

The first thing we would draw your attention to is, that this school of infidelity teaches, that our blessed Lord Jesus was *not always divine*, that He was a *created* being of the highest order, and therefore was not always God.

How plain it is to the prayerful, Christian read-

er of holy scripture, that in the four Gospels there is to be seen the fulness of the Godhead in that meek and lowly One, the Man Christ Jesus. His every act declares that He is God and man in one person. He could weep at the grave of Lazarus: that tells us He was a man. He could call back to life the body of Lazarus, when corruption was already there; and in this we see that He was God. (Jno. II.) He gave sight to one who was born blind: He forgave sins; When asked if He was the Son of the Blessed, He said he was. In all His works and ways, from the manger to the cross, He proved that He was "God manifest in the flesh." Though born in Bethlehem, He eternally existed as the *Son of God*. He was, indeed, born into this world, was "made flesh," became a man, in order that He might die, and thus accomplish redemption, and bring to us eternal life; but never for one moment did He cease to be God. We would not dare attempt to explain the mystery of "God manifest in the flesh," but with adoring hearts would praise Him for the love and grace that led Him to make Himself "Of no reputation," take "the form of a servant." and "the likeness of men," humble Himself to "the death of the cross," (Phil. 2: 7,8) in order that all who believe in Him as their Saviour might share with Him His eternal joys.

In Col. I: 16 we are told that the One through whose blood we have redemption, and the forgiveness of sins, is the One by whom *all things were*

created in heaven and in earth, and verse 17 says, "He is before all things, and by Him all things consist." So that the Christ of Col. I is the God of Genesis I. What weighty words are these in Col. I:19. "For it pleased the Father that in Him (Christ) should *all fulness dwell*." And in verse 9 of chapter 2 we have that which should silence every opposing voice, "*for in Him (Christ) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily*." This is strong language, and sad will be the doom of him who turns away from it.

The first few verses of the first chapter of the Gospel of John clearly unfold the truth of the absolute Deity of our Lord. Notice how it reads: "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*." It is not *from* the beginning, but *in* the beginning, He did not begin to be. He was *God*. When the first thing that ever began to be, did begin, He was there; the *Creator*. This is the One of whom we read in verse 14, "*the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us*." What a mystery, "God manifest in the flesh!" Well may our hearts go out in praise and worship to Him for such love and grace.

This same truth is brought out by the Spirit of God writing through the apostle Paul in I Tim. 3: 16. "And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness: *God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels*," etc. If poor fallen man, under the blinding influence of Satan, was unable to see God in that wondrous Man

Christ Jesus, *angels could.*" Then what, dear reader, are we to think of those who tell us that our blessed Lord was not always God? We do not hesitate to say that such teaching comes from him who "is a liar, and the father of it." See John 8:44.

Could the Lord Jesus use such language as the following, if He were not God? "Before Abraham was, *I AM.*" John 8:58. From the reading of Exodus 3:13 it is to be seen that this is one of His names. Moses there says, "They shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?" and the answer was, "*I AM that I AM:* and He said, thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, *I AM* hath sent me unto you." This name the blessed Lord claims to be His in the eighth of John. "The Jews sought the more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was His Father, *making himself equal with God.*" John 5:18. In chapter 10 we are told that the Jews took up stones to stone Him, and "answered Him, saying, for a good work we stone Thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that Thou, being a man, *makest thyself God.*" See verse 33.

In John 1:18 we have the words, "*the Only Begotten Son* which is in the bosom of the Father, *He hath declared Him.*" When scripture speaks of Him as "*The First Begotten*" it is the place He has taken in time as Head or Chief, "*The Only Begotten*" is what He ever was, "*First Begotten*" of Heb. 1:6, and "*First born*" of Col. 1:15, are the

same word in the original, and constitute a title which is given Him, when, as born into the world, He takes His place as Head of the creation which His own hands had made. He is the "First born of the whole creation." This place begins *in time*. But the title, "Only Begotten" refers to what He is in the Father's bosom *in eternity*. This is of the deepest importance. The Only begotten Son subsists in the Father's bosom, fills that bosom from eternity to eternity. No other has this unique relationship with the Father. Through the mighty redemption of the cross many sons will be brought to glory, but the eternal Son *alone* is the "Only begotten" in the Father's bosom. And He it is who has declared the Father. No other could. And it is as the gift of the Father's love that He has done so. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. Blessed revelation! But this precious verse which has been the means of bringing peace and joy to countless multitudes is completely nullified by this wretched system of Millennial Dawnism: for, if it be true that Christ was only a created being, then *God had no Son to give*; and the Father and His ineffable love remain still unrevealed. *No mere creature, however great or glorious, could reveal God. The finite could not declare the infinite.* Only One whose personal glory is commensurate with the Father's glory could reveal the Father in the infinitude of His love and grace.

Thank God He who dwells in the Father's bosom has done so.

In proof of His being eternally the Son of God take note of the following scriptures. "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent *His Only Begotten Son* into the world that we might live through Him. 1 John 4:9. "God sent not *His Son* into the world to condemn the world;" etc. John 3:17. "He that spared not *His Own Son*, but delivered Him up for us all," etc. Rom. 8:32. "*The Only Begotten Son*, which is in the bosom of the Father, *He hath declared Him*." John 1:18.

From the scriptures we have been considering—and many others bring out the same line of truth—how plain it is to be seen that the One who walked this earth as the despised and rejected Man Christ Jesus, is the selfsame One who brought worlds into being, who formed man "of the dust of the ground," who spoke with Adam, visited Abraham, revealed His mind to Moses, walked with the three Hebrew children through the midst of the burning fiery furnace, stopped the lions' mouths that they should not hurt His servant Daniel, etc. Nothing can be plainer to one whose mind is formed by holy scripture, than that the Jesus Christ of the New Testament is the God of whom we read from first to last in the Old—"God manifest in the flesh." We need not be surprised if we find the evil one attacking this truth to the bitter end, using clever men as his instruments,

but for those who know and love the Lord how comforting the thought that our Saviour is the mighty God.

The second point we would briefly consider in connection with this school of false teaching, is, that they would have us believe that our blessed Lord Jesus is no longer a *Man*, but that at His resurrection His body "evaporated into gases," or "is preserved by God as a memorial" in some secluded part of His universe. We are not at a loss to find scripture to prove the fallacy of such teaching. In the last chapter of Luke when He appeared in the midst of His disciples He showed them His hands and His feet bearing the marks of the nails. Hear His own words, "Behold my hands and my feet, *That it is I Myself*: handle me, and see; *For a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see me have*. And He "did eat before them." The two who stood before the astonished disciples as they were "gazing up into heaven," as recorded in the first chapter of The Acts, said: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in *like manner* as ye have seen Him go into heaven." Can any one read the first chapter of The Acts without admitting that the blessed Lord was a real *Man* after His resurrection? "He showed Himself alive," gave "many infallible proofs," spoke to them "of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God," assembled together with them;" "commanded them," answered their quest-

ions, and last of all "He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight."

Following Him still further we find Him a *Man* in the glory. When His faithful servant Stephen, a man "full of the Holy Ghost," was looking "up steadfastly into heaven," as the stones were falling thick and fast around him, he saw Jesus standing there, and said, "Behold I see the heavens opened, and *the Son of Man* standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:56.

Paul in writing his epistle to Timothy says, "There is one God. and one mediator between God and men, *the Man* Christ Jesus." 1 Tim. 2:5.

Matthew, referring to a day that is yet to come, says, "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of *the Son of Man* be." Chapter 24:27. And in chapter 25:31 we read, "When the *Son of Man* shall come in His glory." etc.

Mark, another inspired writer, speaking of the same time, says, "Then shall they see *the Son of Man* coming in the clouds, with great power and glory." Chapter 13:26.

Luke writes; "Then shall they see *the Son of Man* coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Chapter 21:27.

Scriptures could be multiplied to prove that our blessed Lord Jesus is a *Man* on the throne of God today, but the foregoing is enough to show, to any who are willing to accept the word of God, what He has revealed on this subject.

These false teachers tell us that our Lord's "human nature had to be consecrated to death before He could receive even the pledge of the divine nature," and that not until He had actually sacrificed the human nature, even unto death, did our Lord Jesus become partaker of the divine nature, and that since His resurrection He is what He never was before that is, "a god," and *only* in that sense will they acknowledge Him as divine.

Then, according to this wicked system of teaching, there are three distinct and separate beings, first this "created being of the highest order," then the man Jesus Christ, and last of all, when this man had died, and forever ceased to be, they tell us of "a god;" and this is the one they present to us in the stead of the true Christ of God. Dear reader, can you afford to let go the Christ our God has given us, and who has told out His love for us in dying on Calvary's cross for our eternal redemption, for the one this wretched system presents? Never, no, never.

Our third point is in connection with the Holy Spirit. And here Millennial Dawnism is as false as on these other points which we have been considering. But we need not wonder, for the entire system is Satanic, and an effort to rob us of the truth of the Godhead. They tell us that the Holy Spirit is not a divine person. Let us see how scripture speaks of Him. In Romans 8 He is spoken of as making intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. We also have the

words, "The mind of the Spirit," in the same chapter. In Rev. 22:17 we have the words, "The Spirit and the bride say come." In Eph. 4:30 we are told not to grieve the Holy Spirit of God. And in Matt. 28:19 we are told to baptize "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." I would like to ask if anything * that has not a distinct personality could "*make intercession*" "*have a mind?*" "*say come?*" Be "*grieved?*" Have a *name* on an equality with the Father and the Son?

Thousands are falling victims to these evil teachings, showing how rapidly the apostacy is setting in, and our prayer is that the Lord will preserve our readers from the snare the evil one is so subtly spreading for our feet, and from which very few are ever recovered.

*NOTE.—It is true that the word God has been pleased to use in the Greek to denote the third person in the Trinity is in the neuter gender, but this has nothing to do with the personality of the Holy Ghost. In John 4:24 where it is said "God is a Spirit," and in Heb. 1:7, where He makes "His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire," the words "Spirits," and "spirits," are in the neuter gender, while flame is in the feminine. But who would have the hardihood to say that this affected the personality of either God or the angels? The language used in connection with the Holy Spirit leaves absolutely no question as to His personality. Only a mind blinded by Satan can deny it.